

HOUSE RESOLUTION 19

By Lamberth

A RESOLUTION to honor Stephen Alexander Vaden upon being appointed to the United States Court of International Trade.

WHEREAS, we are pleased to honor an outstanding attorney who, after serving as general counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture for two years, is now transferring his considerable abilities to serve as a judge on the United States Court of International Trade; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Stephen Alexander Vaden was appointed by President Donald Trump to serve as the general counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture beginning December 14, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vaden remained at his post with the U.S. Department of Agriculture until December 21, 2020, at which time he assumed the office of judge of the U.S. Court of International Trade, once again appointed by President Trump; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Court of International Trade is composed of nine judges with nationwide jurisdiction over any federal matter affecting trade, including agricultural commodities; Stephen Vaden's lifetime appointment to this august body is a testament to his expertise in trade, agriculture, and international law; and

WHEREAS, Judge Vaden has the distinct honor of being the first Tennessean to sit on our nation's Court of International Trade; and

WHEREAS, immediately prior to his tenure as U.S. Department of Agriculture general counsel, Judge Stephen Vaden served on the Trump administration's landing team for that same department; and

WHEREAS, a native of Obion County, Stephen Vaden was born on May 15, 1982, in Memphis; he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Vanderbilt University and a Juris Doctor from Yale Law School; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from law school, Mr. Vaden served as a law clerk to Judge Julia Smith Gibbons of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and to Judge Samuel H. Mays, Jr., of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a devoted servant of the bar, Stephen Vaden then practiced law at Patton Boggs and Jones Day, specializing in appellate litigation, election law, and administrative law; and

WHEREAS, during the course of his exemplary career at the bar and on the bench, Judge Vaden has demonstrated a stalwart commitment to justice and equity under the law, and he should be honored on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and congratulate Stephen Alexander Vaden upon being appointed to the United States Court of International Trade and thank him for his exceptional service to this State and our nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.